

Note on the Map attached to the Report of the Coal Committee in the 98th Number of the Journal of the Asiatic Society.—By CAPT. MACLEOD, M. N. I. late in charge of Ava Residency.

The importance of correct geographical information, and that errors should not continue to be perpetuated through the Journal of the Asiatic Society, or at least, that what has been advanced on native information, or laid down on surmise, may not be received as indisputable facts, induce me to trouble you with this note, and the accompanying sketch.

A comparison between the sketch map appended to the Report of the Coal Committee in the 98th No. of the Journal of the Asiatic Society, and the one now submitted, will at once show wherein the errors in the former lie, I will not, therefore, take up your time by pointing them out.

The sketch by the Coal Committee, above alluded to, has been evidently copied from the map of the Eastern Frontier, by the late Capt. Pemberton; the coal locality marked C. was not noted in his original map, not having been discovered at the time of its compilation; indeed, corrections in the sheet representing that portion of the country in the map, become necessary, in consequence of many doubtful points having fallen under the personal examination or survey of various persons; and subsequent to its passing out of Capt. Pemberton's hand, a whole sheet was cancelled, and another substituted in its place. I presume, however, the boundary line as marked by Capt. Pemberton from information, was preserved in the new sheet, and when the coal field was discovered, its site being from observations beyond that line, it was taken for granted as belonging to the Siamese, and placed accordingly in the Map.

The position so assigned to it, has evidently led the Committee into doubt; for in the report above noticed, it says, "although the quality is excellent in the third situation in which the mineral has been found by Dr. Helfer at C., yet its distance from the coast is such as to render it of very doubtful utility on the Bengal side of the Peninsula, whatever benefit it may eventually prove on the Gulf of Siam, as it *seems* to be situated *beyond* the boundary range of hills." It is this point that, I think, merits some attention, and on which I have to offer a few observations.



That there is no possibility for the Siamese to benefit by this coal field, even supposing that it belongs to them, is almost certain; for they have no water communication to the place; but the coal, if ever required, must be transported by a land route, and I presume over hills, though of what magnitude, I will not venture to surmise.

That it may not be supposed that I speak from information alone, I beg to observe, that I proceeded myself by water to within 8 or 9 miles of the spot, where finding the stream too shallow to admit even of small bamboo rafts ascending it, I continued my journey by land to the old Siamese town of Thain Khan, standing on the stream we had quitted, and from thence to the coal site, crossing many small nullahs on the way, which discharge themselves into the Thain Khan river, on the banks of which the coal is found. This stream appears to come from some distance beyond this locality, for our subjects from Mergui annually proceed up it beyond that spot for the distance of two days' journey, to cut the Karamet, or the bastard sandal wood (which is an article of commerce), and which they bring down on rafts, when the stream is swollen by the rains, without any question from the Siamese.

No boundary has been fixed on this frontier. At the close of the Burmese war, the British considered themselves as having a right either to what properly belonged to Pegue or Burmah, or what those incorporated nations held at the time of the rupture with us, and was wrested by us from them, or was included within the districts ceded to us. It is well known that a considerable space intervened between, the two countries having become depopulated by the constant aggressions of either party, and which was left unoccupied from motives of safety and convenience. *

That this is not the only point in which incorrect geographical information has misled us into wrong conclusions as to defined boundary marks, will be seen on a reference to the note attached to the Map of Dr. Richardson's route from Bangkok to Zimmay, published in the 97th No. of the Journal, we have to the north and west of Moulmain considered the Thoung Yeen river as the line of demarcation, and when this line is lost at the source of that river, a range of mountains supplies its place, and which is supposed (for I may safely say no part of the line from the 14th degree of Lat. downwards has been examined) to continue in an unbroken line to the southern extremity of our

territories. It must be admitted, that this change from a river to a range of mountains, which coming from the N. W. runs at some short distance from, and parallel to it, and in which numerous streams take their rise, and descending the hills contribute to swell that river by their tributary streams, is not the best line that could have been selected. But it is now discovered, that the range of mountains themselves was considered by the Burmese and Siamese as the boundary.

Capt. Lloyd also, from whose excellent and accurate Map of the Mergui Archipelago I have borrowed largely, when speaking of the same coal field, the position of which was fixed by Lieut. Fell of the Indian Navy and myself, appears to doubt "whether the locality in question is in the British or Siam territory; for Cin Point of the charts on the Gulf of Siam side, is in latitude $12^{\circ} 10'$ N. and longitude $100^{\circ} 10'$ E., or only 35 miles in a direct line further from the coal site; whilst from the town of Cin, situated in a more southerly direction, where the Gulf of Siam is represented as having a deep course to the westward, it is only 23 miles."

The mountains on the eastern shore of the Gulf of Siam, called by the Siamese Samroi Yot (the 300 peaks), is mentioned by Mr. Crawford in his "Embassy to Siam and Cochin China;" he says, in latitude $13^{\circ} 2'$, "a few miles to the north of us was seen the entrance of a river, upon which is situated the town of Kivi," (Cin). This shows that there are rivers rising in the range of hills to the westward of it, which flow into the Gulf of Siam, and whether the Kivi river or the Thain Khan, or as some call it, the little Tenasserim, rise in the same range or adjoining ones, that range in which the latter has its source is certainly our proper boundary. From Cin Point the coast has been delineated from *native* information, though I believe the best of the description that could be obtained; but may the coast not have been drawn as tending too much to the westward from Cin Point? But whether it does or not, or what ever the breadth of the range of hills may be, I conceive, that it has little to do with the present question, for no doubt can exist, even on a reference to that *ultima ratio*—the Law of Nations.

I think we should be culpable in the present case to remain silent, and allow a Map to go forth disseminating error, and which might be hereafter brought forward as clearly defining the boundary line.

I cannot avoid noticing, that a most interesting point of geographical research still remains involved in doubt; viz. the breadth of the Peninsula between the Mergui Archipelago and the Gulf of Siam; the advantages which might result to Government, both in a political and commercial point, by an investigation into the subject, has already been brought forward by Captain Lloyd and others, and it is to be hoped, now that our attention is called to the Eastward, that this portion of the Peninsula by which the communication across might be facilitated and shortened, may be examined by experienced and intelligent Surveyors.

Calcutta, July 27th, 1840.

Note.--I had received the above interesting geographical notice, when it occurred to me to refer the subject to Capt. J. Lloyd, of the Indian Navy, so well known by his recent valuable surveys in the Bay of Bengal, which with Capt. Macleod's ready permission, was done accordingly. The result of the reference appears in the following notes, addressed to me by these officers, which will better explain their views and opinion on a geographical point of some interest when given in the original, than would be the case were I to attempt to embody their contents in a more compendious form.



From CAPTAIN LLOYD to the Officiating Secretary.

"We know nothing of the Coast about and below Cin Point beyond what the old maps afford us, and which disagree very much; indeed, this portion of coast seems to be very little known, and is a part which I pointed out as desirable to be surveyed three years ago. Capt. Macleod has had access to all the charts and information that I have been enabled to get hold of, and therefore there are no additions or alterations in his map that I could venture to make; but as my recent survey makes the mouth of the Pakchan river, which forms the boundary of the British territory, considerably further to the southward than laid down in Captain Pemberton's map (nearly a degree), I would suggest that Champhon be brought further down, so as to correspond with the best information we possess of its being nearly east from, or on the parallel of the town of Pakchan or Karao."

From CAPTAIN MACLEOD to the Officiating Secretary.

"Many thanks for the perusal of Captain Lloyd's note, which I have kept longer than was intended, to make some additions to the sketch.

My object in furnishing you with the sketch, was to rectify such errors as I could within what I supposed to be our own territories ; but as the position of the Choomphon river has now been brought forward, the whole of that portion of the west coast of the Gulf of Siam may be taken into consideration ; I will, therefore, at the risk of tiring you, even enter somewhat fully on the subject.

When I made the sketch I sent you, I followed Crawford as the latest authority for that part of the coast of Siam, except so far as to give the coast below Kivi Point a less curvature than it had in his map, to accommodate it to the site of the coal fields. I have since looked into Horsburgh's Chart, and find his delineation of that part would have suited me better. I have also since met with certain documents connected with that coast, and a sketch, which I shall allude to below.

I have now added to my original sketch the outline of the Siamese coast as given by Crawford, Horsburgh, and the sketch mentioned above, so that these being placed in juxta position with each other, you will be able, at a coup d'ail, to see the differences of the authorities, and draw your own conclusions.

I am not acquainted with Horsburgh's authorities for his chart. Mr. Crawford sailed in sight of Kivi, or Cin Point, so that we may consider this point as satisfactorily fixed. The remainder of the coast was delineated from information obtained from an intelligent native Mahomedan of Siam, who was acquainted with the use of maps, &c. and could even take an altitude of the sun. So that the value of these two authorities must be left to the judgment of persons interested in the matter.

I must now revert to the sketch noticed above. During Colonel Burney's Mission to Siam in 1826-27, he left at Sigor, Mr. Harris, Acting Assistant Surgeon, and Mr. Leal, his interpreter, to accompany the rajah of that place by land to Bangkok. Mr. Harris appears to have kept a Journal, from which I have extracted largely, as the accompanying paper will show ; and though the purpose I intended it for has been nullified, yet as we are on the subject of that coast, I enclose it.

By the Journal it appears that the late Mr. Leal, who was, I believe, a nautical man, fixed the latitude of many places by observation, and

amongst others Choomphon. These materials were embodied by Colonel Burney; taking as it will be seen, the coast line from Horsburgh for his ground work, I concluded that the point respecting the position of Choomphon would have been thus set at rest, but finding that though many of the latitudes given in the Journal coincided with the position of the places as laid down by Horsburgh, that with a quadrant only, which Mr. Leal had, (unless some mistake has been made respecting the instrument) he could not have taken the altitudes of the sun at the places where he was, at the time of the year, to produce the results given, unless he worked by double altitudes, which from the situation he was in, I fear he could not have had the opportunity of doing, I am at a loss, therefore, what value to place upon these observations, especially as he has made a great error in the position of the Pakchan river, on the western side of the Peninsula.

Mr. Leal proceeded from Bangkok to Mergui with a number of Burmese captives, who had been released by Colonel Burney's exertions. This portion of Mr. Leal's journey has been noticed by Mr. Wilson in his usual interesting manner, and devoid of the stiffness of a Journal. It does not appear that Mr. Leal took any observations during this journey; at least the author does not mention them, nor does he indeed notice those noted in Mr. Harris's journal in their journey up to Bangkok.

After landing at Bangnorom, in the Gulf of Siam, on the fifth day, Mr. Leal and his party reached the Kosoon mountain. This is placed in the sketch by Colonel Burney about thirty-five miles direct from the village on the coast.

By the description of this portion of the journey, I conceive the mountain to be one of the range placed by me immediately to the southward of the coal field, or a continuation of them to the eastward. A tree was pointed out to me as the spot where conferences were held by the Burmese and Siamese; this may have been one of the three mentioned by Mr. Leal. I did not, however, understand that it marked the boundary, and would, I think you will admit, be a strange mark in a land of mountains and forests to divide two countries. I was informed that the spot was selected as the most convenient and spacious for such meetings, after passing over the hills from the Siamese side, and, indeed, the only one adapted for such assemblies,

certainly for many miles towards, or in the Burmese territories now ceded to the British, as far as I know or saw.

That the place is the same as alluded to by me, the similarity of the name, making allowances for Burmese and Siamese pronunciation, will show; the Burmese call it *Thaing-Khon-Myo*; Mr. Leal, *Sing-Khon-Thape*. *Myo* is the Burman word for a town, and may correspond in signification to the Siamese word *Thape*, which has been dropped by the Burmese, and the other substituted for it.

That the stream the party came upon was the little *Tenasserim*, or that part of it called the *Thaing-Khon* river, there can be no doubt, both from the length of time they were coming down on rafts, which on the great *Tenasserim* would have placed their starting point much too far north, and from the channel being obstructed by trees, which is not the case with the latter, but which I found to be with the former. The party themselves were of two opinions as to which branch they were on. This I think will bear me out in what I said respecting the hills, marking our boundary in the map of the Coal Committee.

The next point to be noticed is the *Pakchan* and *Choomphon* rivers, jointly. Mr. Leal proceeded up the former river, and travelled by land to the town of *Choomphon*. He does not appear, however, to have made use of a compass in ascending the river, for in the sketch, its course is marked as being from east to west, and that of the *Choomphon* river, which he says is very winding, from west to east. The late Dr. Helfer, found the course of the former to be from the NE.; now as Mr. Leal has made a mistake in this, is it not possible that he has followed up the error in the latter, and made it run from the West instead of the SW.? If so, there would be no necessity for moving the mouth of the *Choomphon* river to the Southward, but merely to change its course as marked by me on the map.

All the information obtained by Captain Lloyd, and what Mr. Leal says, would justify the removal of the town and river of *Choomphon* as proposed by Captain Lloyd, but there would be some difficulty in accommodating the other places on the Siamese coast to it. Some of these may have been correctly laid down.

Choomphon had a force stationed at it when the Burmese held the *Tenasserim* Coast, to watch their proceedings, and also to make

occasional kidnapping incursions into the Burmese territories; it is well known that in those days Mergui and Tenasserim were the only places inhabited, having forts for the protection of the inhabitants. If Choomphon was moved to the Southward, would not the distance which is for such purpose already great, be somewhat beyond bounds?

Taking every thing into consideration, I should be inclined to leave the Siamese coast alone, and rather than removing Choomphon at a venture, and continuing without wholly rectifying an error, merely add the notes to the maps as I have done. I hope the day is not distant when we shall have these points satisfactorily adjusted.

Extracts from MR. HARRIS'S Journal, taken from MR. MOORS'S work on the Indian Archipelago.

"*Dec. 18th 1825.*—Leave Ligor—crossed the Tha-Wang (1) river, and halted for the day at the village of Nam Jin. Mr. Leal made the latitude of Ligor by observation 8° 17' 16" N.

"*19th.*—Remained all day at Nam Jin.

"*20th.*—Started from Nam Jin at about 9 A.M. At 10 crossed a small stream, Nam Khoa, from which the road was very bad, until $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 P. M. when we arrived at Ban Hooa Thap-han, close to the sea-side.

"*21st.*—Started at about 10 A.M. and after passing over very bad roads covered with water, arrived with a few of the party only, at 8 at night, at Ban Cloi, a village on the right bank of a river of the same name.

"*22nd.*—The Rajah not being up, we took a boat and went down to the mouth of the Cloi (2) river in about an hour. Mouth of the river in latitude 8° 42' N.

"*23rd.*—Detained all day at Ban Cloi.

"*24th.*—Started from Ban Cloi at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 A.M. At 10 crossed a small stream named Khlong Punsoo. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 another, Khlong Klien. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12, another, Khlong Nam Hooa, near which we passed through paddy fields. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1 we crossed the Khlong Tha-phoon; at 3 Khlong Thanok, near the foot of a high hill; and at 6 P. M. we arrived at a place Ban Krang, (3) where we halted for the night. Our halting place was situated at the foot of a hill, on a beautiful plain, through which a fine clear stream, Khlong Krang, flowed.

"*25th.*—We crossed the Khlong Krang, at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 A.M. At 11, Khlong Soch Hoon. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 came in sight of an extensive range of mountains on the left side of the road; and at 6 P. M. arrived at our halting place near the village of Hooa-nat.

"*26th.*—Left Hooa-nat at 8 A.M. and after crossing three or four streams, and

1 I suppose this is Crawford's Ta-yang.

2 This must be Horsburgh's Clay.

3 This is about where Horsburgh and Valentyn place Along.

in one place some hilly ground, called by the Siamese the Nine Hills, we arrived at 6 P.M. at our halting place, near a small village named Kahnom. (4)

"27th.—Detained by heavy rain.

"28th.—Started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 A.M. and at 12, crossed a stream, Khlong Chekram, and halted at Ban Chekram.

"29th.—Started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 A.M. At 8 crossed Khlong Tha-thang, a small stream. At 12 passed near some hills, the road leading between two of them, at some distance from each other; and at about 3 arrived at our halting place near Ban Hude, on the side of a very rapid stream, Khlong Koowat, which we crossed.

"30th.—Halted.

"31st.—Started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 A.M. At 10, crossed, Khlong Dinles; and at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10, Khlong Sai; at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11, Khlong Banpring; and at about 3 P.M. arrived at the halting place, Ban Kliung.

"1st January. Started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 A.M. At 10 crossed Khlong Hooei Yong reng; at 12 saw a hill to our left, and at 2 P.M. arrived at our halting place on the right of a large river, Khlong Tha-Khan, on the opposite of which, towards the mouth of the river, is a large town called Ban-Phoon-phin. (5)

"2d.—Detained in crossing the elephants. We attempted to go in a boat down to the mouth of the river, but it was too late in the day. We saw a branch of the river running down to the southward, which we were told led to the town of Bandon. We visited the town of Phoonphin. Mr. Leal took an observation, and made the latitude $9^{\circ} 38' N$.

"The Thakan (6) river is the northern boundary of the Rajah of Ligor's jurisdiction.

"3rd.—Started at 10 A.M., crossing Kholong Thakhan in a boat, down the left bank of which river, the road passed for some time. At 4 P.M. arrived at our halting place near Ban Kalok.

"4th.—Started at 7 A.M. 12 crossed a small river, and passed through two small villages; halted at 2 P.M. at Phumrieng, (7) a small village situated inland of the town of Chhaiya.

"5th.—Visited the town of Chhaiya. The river is a large, broad, deep stream. We did not cross the river (8) but passed, as I suppose, at the head of it. Latitude $9^{\circ} 57' N$.

4. This is likely to be "Carmom" of various charts and maps, although by them the river of that name is placed more to the southward, and Carmom point is about $8^{\circ} 55' N$. Lat.

5. Crawford's Punssin.

6. The Thakham discharges itself, it is said, into the sea by two embouchures; the northern one having the town of Thathong at it, and the southern one Bandon. The Rajah stopped at the place where the river is usually crossed, and where it bears the name of Thakham, though the name of Bandon is some times erroneously given to the whole stream. The Thakham is said to be a large stream, which leads to Pennon, 3 days journey from Phounga, near Junk-Ceylon. There are numerous islands at the mouth of this river, or rivers, named by Horsburgh and Vallentyn 'Larchin Islands.' Mr. Crawford in his map lays down this part of the coast very differently from the authorities above noticed; a reference to the sketch No. 2 will show the points wherein they disagree.

7 Crawford's Puming.

8 Mr. Harris states he did not cross the Chhaiya river. The town is probably, therefore, situated on an arm of the sea, unless the small stream crossed during the march of the 4th be the head of the Chhaiya river. Horsburgh has a place called Patanon on or near the site of Chhaiya, but as Crawford has left it out of his map, it in all likelihood does not now exist.

"6th.—Started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9; at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 passed a large stony hill, and at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4, arrived at our halting place, near Ban-Tharena.

"7th.—Started at 8 A.M. crossing a small stream, Khlong Tharena, and at 11 arrived at the sea beach. We passed the mouths of two streams, Khlong Kauthoree and Khlong Punke Doowat; at 4 halted on the sea-shore.

"8th.—Pursued our journey for an hour along the sea-shore; we then turned inland; and at 5 passed through a village; at 6 saw a high hill. At 7 arrived at our halting place on the right bank of a large river, Khlong Lang Sewun, on the other side of which is the large village of Lang Sewun. (9)

"9th.—Halted.

"10th.—At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 crossed over in a boat; at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1, crossed a small stream named Khlong Thakho, and arrived at our halting place, near a village on the other side, called Thakho.

"11th.—Started at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7, and at 2 halted on the right bank of a stream, Khlong Suwi, near a large village named Suwi.

"12th.—Crossed the Khlong Suwi at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9, and at 1 P.M. halted on the right bank of a stream, Khlong Wisai, near a small village named Wisai.

"13th.—At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 crossed the Khlong Wisai; halted at 6 P.M. on the right bank of the Chhoomphon river, near and below the town of that name. (10)

14th.—Halted. River extremely winding. Mr. Leal made the latitude of Chhoomphon $10^{\circ} 55'$ N.

15th.—At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 crossed the Chhoomphon river, and halted at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 at Bangsoon.

16th.—Started at 7, and halted at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 at the head of a small stream called Pathiu, near the mouth of which is a small village of the same name.

"17th.—Halted.

"18th.—Dropped down in a boat to the village of Pathiu. Mr. Leal made the latitude of Pathiu $11^{\circ} 10'$ N.

"27th.—(Here they were detained until 27th, when,) we left Pathiu at 12 o'clock, and after rowing for three hours, we anchored close to the shore; at 9 P.M. there being a fine breeze, Mr. Leal who took charge of navigating the boat, insisted upon proceeding, and we then set sail.

"28th.—Continued under sail all day in sight of land, which appeared low.

"29th.—Came in sight of the high mountains called Samroi yot, (12) "three hundred peaks," at the foot of which, at a small village of the same name, we anchored at 4 P.M. to take in water; (13) at 7 P.M. continued our course along the shore where it is steep.

9 Horsburgh has a place named Penomxin about this place; whether a former town or another name for Lang-Sewun, cannot be said. Crawford has this town lower down, though he retains the Islands of Carmom and Saucori as given by Horsburgh.

10 At Chhoomphon the Siamese forces destined to attack the Burmese at Mergui always assembled, and the Governor was entrusted with the duty of watching the Burmese on the coast of Tenasserim, and since the conquest of Tavoy and Mergui by the Burmese, it has become a purely military post. This and the want of population caused by the ravages of war, account for the cessation of that valuable trade, which formerly passed between Mergui and the Gulf of Siam.

11 Horsburgh has a place called Bardia here.

12 Sam, three; *roi*, hundred; *yot*, peaks. This is Kœmfer's Jamajata, and the mountains of Pensels of Portugese charts.

13 Near Samroi yot is a Siamese village called Kosi or Cin, which has been variously written Cin, Kieoi Cen. Loubere writes it Cuil, and Kœmfer, Kin.

“30th.—Mr. Leal who had a compass and quadrant with him, finding that the passage along the coast would be unnecessarily long and tedious, obliged the boatmen to steer a more easterly course, and direct for the mouth of the Menan. Towards evening a stiff breeze coming on, the boat, which had no keel, could not keep her course, and was driven to leeward until 10 P. M., when she got aground on the mud flats between the mouths of the Thachise and Menan rivers.

“31st.—Got off the flat easily at 6 A.M.; between 8 and 9 entered the Menan, and shortly after anchored at the foot of Paknam.

Extracted from WILSON'S Burmese War.

“The court of Siam having consented to release certain Burman prisoners, it was thought advisable to send them back in charge of some confidential person; accordingly the first detachment, consisting of between five or six hundred persons, proceeded under the superintendence of Mr. Leal.

“The party left Bangkok on the 13th February 1826, in six junks. They sailed from the bar on the 23rd, and on the 1st March, reached Bangnarom, a place on the west coast of the Gulf of Siam, in about latitude 11° 50', from hence the route proceeded overland.

“The first day's march was, in the early part, over an indifferent road, but the greater part was good, with pools of water at different places; the second was also over a good road, and terminated at a place where it branched off in two different directions, the right leading to Bangthophan, the left to Mergui, and distinguished by two large trees, one on the Mergui road, marked with two large crosses, and the other on the Bangthaphan road, with four.

“On the third day's march, the people suffered much inconvenience from want of water, not a drop of which was encountered. Early on the morning of the fourth, water was met with. The road here again divided into two, one leading to the E. (W. ?) the other S.S.E. (S.S.W. ?) the latter terminating abruptly, at a short distance, the former continuing to Mergui, and marked by a large stone.

“The fifth day's march, came early to the foot of the Kasom mountain, along the skirts of which ran a small rivulet; the mountain was steep, and the ascent and descent occupied the greater part of a fatiguing day. By 9 o'clock on the morning of the following day, the party arrived at the boundary of the Burman and Siamese states, marked by three tamarind trees; the place is said to be called Sing-khow-the-pe. In the afternoon, they halted at a pagoda, where the Burmese offered their adorations.

“The next day's march continued throughout the day along a good road to the banks of the Tenasserim river, where the party constructed seventy-five bamboo floats, for the purpose of completing the journey by water. According to impressions received on the spot, the river here was thought to be the main branch, but, according to the assertions of the more intelligent among the Burmans, it is but a branch of the Tenasserim river. The passage down the stream was very tardy, being much obstructed by trees in the river. On the afternoon of the third day a fishing boat was seen, and dispatched to Mergui, where the party arrived on the fifth day of their voyage, the 15th March.